# **COMPARING COVID-19 VACCINES**

A COVID-19 vaccine can help you develop immunity to SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, without getting ill. While each type of vaccine works in a different way, all COVID-19 vaccines prompt an immune response so that your body remembers how to fight the virus in the future.

	Pfizer-BioNTech	Moderna	Janssen
Vaccine Type	mRNA	mRNA	<u>Vector</u>
Effectiveness	95% effective at preventing the COVID-19 virus with symptoms 100% effective at preventing COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths	94% effective at preventing the COVID-19 virus with symptoms 100% effective at preventing COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths	66% effective at preventing the COVID-19 virus with symptoms 100% effective at preventing COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths
Number of Doses	Two doses are needed, 21 days apart (or up to six weeks apart, if needed)  Some protection provided after the first dose	Two doses are needed, 28 days apart (or up to six weeks apart, if needed)  Some protection provided after the first dose	One dose is needed  Protection provided two weeks after vaccination
Age requirement	16 and older	18 and older	18 and older
Who shouldn't get the Vaccine?	People who've had an immediate or severe allergic reaction to any of the vaccine's ingredients or after a prior dose of the vaccine shouldn't get the vaccine	People who've had an immediate or severe allergic reaction to any of the vaccine's ingredients or after a prior dose of the vaccine shouldn't get the vaccine	People who've had an immediate or severe allergic reaction to any of the vaccine's ingredients shouldn't get the vaccine
Side Effects	Injection site pain, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, fever, nausea, feeling unwell and swollen lymph nodes	Injection site pain, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, swollen lymph nodes in the arm that was injected, nausea, vomiting and fever	Injection site pain, headache, fatigue, muscle pain, chills, fever and nausea

If you have any questions or concerns about getting a COVID-19 vaccine, talk to your doctor.



# **COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION**

### CONSIDERATIONS FOR TAKING MEDICATION BEFORE GETTING VACCINATED

For most people, it is not recommended to avoid, discontinue, or delay medications for underlying medical conditions around the time of COVID-19 vaccination. However, your healthcare provider should talk to you about what is currently known and not known about the effectiveness of getting a COVID-19 vaccine when taking medications that suppress the immune system.

It is not recommended you take over-the-counter medicine, such as ibuprofen, aspirin, or acetaminophen, before

vaccination for the purpose of trying to prevent vaccine-related side effects. It is not known how these medications may affect how well the vaccine works. However, if you take these medications regularly for other reasons, you should keep taking them before you get vaccinated. It is also not recommended to take antihistamines before getting a COVID-19 vaccine to try to prevent allergic reactions.

If you have questions about medications that you are taking, talk to your doctor or your vaccination provider.

#### DON'T GET A COVID-19 VACCINE AT THE SAME TIME AS OTHER VACCINES

Wait at least 14 days before getting any other vaccine, including a flu or shingles vaccine, after you get your COVID-19 vaccine. Or if you get any other vaccine first, wait at least 14 days before getting your COVID-19 vaccine.

If you get a COVID-19 vaccine within 14 days of another vaccine, you do not need to be revaccinated with either

vaccine. You should still complete both vaccine series on schedule.

When we have more data on the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines given at the same time as other vaccines, CDC may update this recommendation.

### HAVE YOU BEEN FULLY VACCINATED?

People are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, like the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, like Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine

## LIFE AFTER YOU'VE BEEN FULLY VACCINATED

#### WHAT'S CHANGED

If you've been fully vaccinated:

- You can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask.
- You can gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks, unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you
  do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless
  you have symptoms.
  - » However, if you live in a group setting (like a correctional or detention facility or group home) and are around someone who has COVID-19, you should still stay away from others for 14 days and get tested, even if you don't have symptoms.



#### WHAT HASN'T CHANGED

For now, if you've been fully vaccinated:

- You should still take steps to protect yourself and others in many situations, like wearing a mask, staying at least 6' apart, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces.
   Take these precautions whenever you are:
  - » In public
  - » Gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one other household
  - » Visiting with an unvaccinated person who is at increased risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19 or who lives with a person at increased risk
- You should still delay travel. If you do travel, you'll still need to follow CDC requirements and recommendations.
- You should still watch out for symptoms of COVID-19. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should get tested and stay home and away from others.
- You will still need to follow guidance at your workplace.